The Lions' Pride

SAINT LEO UNIVERSITY • FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2015 • VOLUME LIII NO. 22 • SINCE 1965

The Future of Student Aid

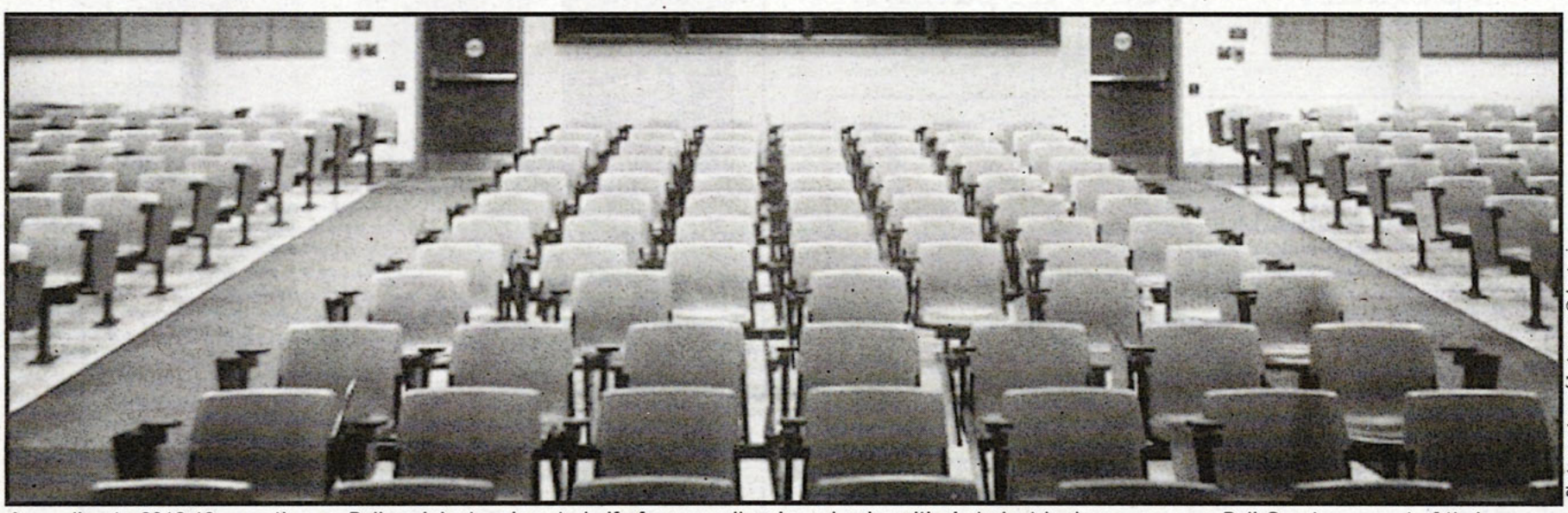


Photo courtesy of Instagram @sbastani

According to 2012-13 reporting on Pell recipients, close to half of some college's and universities' student body possesses a Pell Grant as a part of their financial aid package. In 2012, the U.S. Department of Education limited the total amount a student may receive a Pell Grant to only 12 semesters. The Pell Grant is an important determinant to a student's ability to attend post-secondary education.

By Nicole Alvarez
Contributing Writer

Congress has begun discussing the 2016 fiscal year budget as of Monday 23, 2015. The plan, however, proposes the slashing of approximately $150 billion in student aid. The budget cut would take affect over a period of ten years and mainly effect Pell Grants and student loans.

The 2016 fiscal year budget proposal will cut $150 billion in student aid over a period of ten years as one method to reduce government spending. It will also balance out the increase in budget for defense discretionary spending that would take place over the same period of time. The budget proposal will reduce federal spending over the ten years by $5.5 trillion.

For college students who depend on financial aid to cover tuition, Pell Grants and student loans are extremely important. Pell Grants are usually awarded to undergraduate students who have not earned a bachelor's or a professional degree. Unlike loans, Pell Grants do not need to be repaid and typically the only way a student cannot be eligible for Pell Grants is to have been incarcerated and sent to a federal or state penal institution. The amount of money any student can receive from Pell Grants varies depending financial need, costs to attend school, whether students are full-time or part-time, and plan to attend school for a full academic year or not. The current maximum amount allotted for a Pell Grant is $5,775 for the 2015-2016 academic year.

What the budget proposal suggests is freezing the Pell Grant program at the 2015-2016 maximum, $5,775, for the next ten years. The proposal will also reduce eligibility for Pell Grants making it harder for students to pay their tuition and eliminate all mandatory funding for Pell Grants. According to the Committee for Education Funding, the budget assumes the costs for Pell Grants will be covered by the discretionary side of the budget. Discretionary spending is the portion of the government's expenditures, or pay outs, which is used for non-essential or voluntary disbursements. Discretionary spending is different from mandatory spending, which funds programs according to current laws. The Student Aid Alliance states that this will force students in need of financial assistance to take out more loans in order to afford college. Aside from Pell Grants the budget proposal would also affect in-school interest subsidies, loan forgiveness, income-based repayment programs, domestic discretionary funding, and market risk penalty to student loan scoring.

The budget proposal will eliminate in-school interest subsidies for undergraduate students. With interest subsidies no longer available, students who take out loans will have increased loan payments. In-school interest subsidies do not allow loans to accrue interest while students are enrolled in school for at least half the academic year Public sector loan forgiveness will be eliminated as well. Public sector loan forgiveness encourages individuals to enter public service employment by forgiving the remaining balance these individuals may have on their loans after at least 120 payments have been made. Without loan forgiveness, students will become discouraged from entering public service careers, such as public health and education.

Income-based repayment programs for student loans will be terminated by the 2016 fiscal year budget proposal. Income-based repayment programs are plans that are designed to specifically make student loan debts more manageable. Such plans reduce monthly payment amounts and there are three income-based plans. The three income-based plans are the income-based repayment plan, the pay as you earn repayment plan, and the income-contingent repayment plan. One last item that the budget affects is student loan scoring. The cost of student loan programs would increase due to artificial inflation because the budget would require the Congressional Budget Office to utilize Fair Value Accountingwhen scoring student loans, according to the Committee for Education Funding. The CEF says that this will create more pressure to cut student aid or other programs to reduce the higher cost.

The main priority of the budget proposal for the 2016 fiscal year is to reduce government spending by $5.5 trillion. The proposed cuts of $150 billion to student aid is among one of the cuts the proposal details. The Student AidAlliance, an association of over 80 organizations and institutions, has written a letter to the House of Representatives on the proposed cuts to student aid and the negative impacts it would have. Saint Leo sent out an email about this issue on Monday 23, 2015 with ways to contact Congress and Senators.

CHECK US OUT ONLINE!

Google and Artificial Intelligence

Photo fom Wikimedia Commons

Subsidized vs Unsubsized Loans

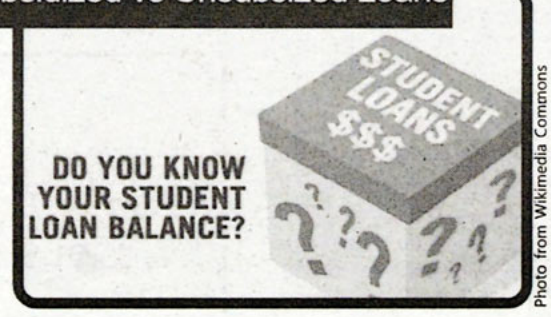


Photo from Wikimedia Commons

Evolve: Game Review

Photo from Twitter @EvolveGame

Editorial

DEATH penalty VS. LIFE in prison

By Yaribilisa Colon
Contributing Writer

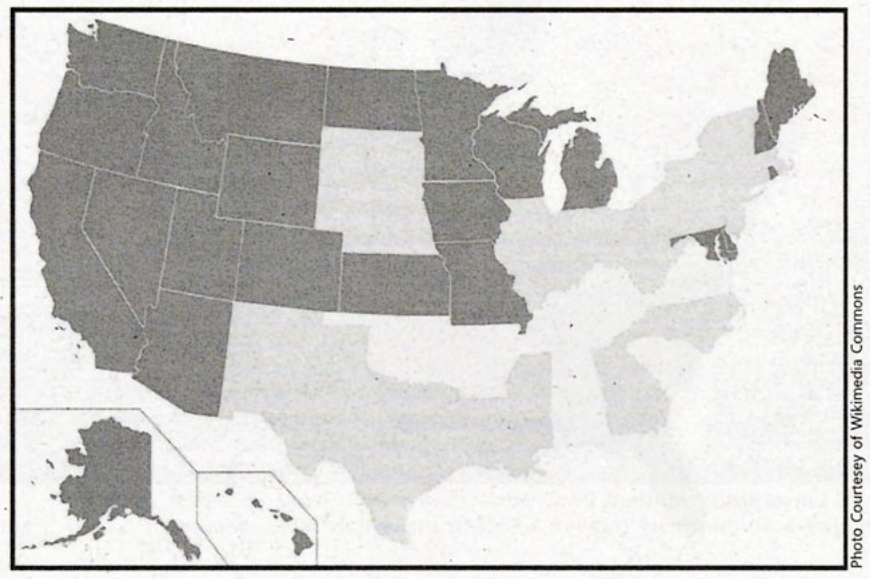


Photo Courtesey of Wikimedia Commons

Florida is a state where it is legal to have lethel injections.

When it comes to choosing between life in prison vs. the death penalty; there are many different reasons and opinions over which one is "better" or should I say more punishable. One thing you have to remember is that the choice will be different according to the individuals view or situation. For instance, the view of the person facing either of the two and the person who is choosing which one the person shall face.

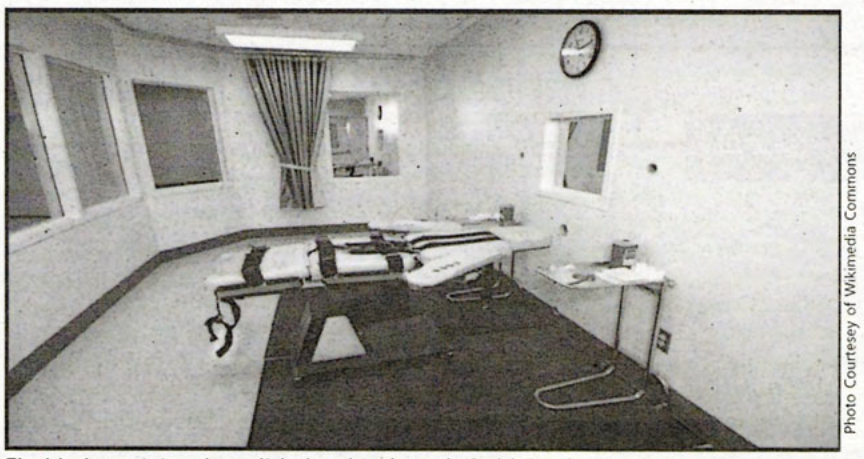
Besides the fact that the death penalty cost more; which I don't understand how and why, but it also puts innocent lives at risk. Meaning, if someone gets convicted for a crime and faces the death penalty; but then a year later new evidence comes up showing that, that person is actually innocent. Not only did you kill an innocent person, but you also put a family through pain that could have been avoided.

Now in some cases, people may agree on the fact that there are some crimes that people should automatically face the death penalty for. When looking at both options from an innocent by standers view; the death penalty may seem like a quick and easy process. Meaning the person isn't really facing any actually punishment, being that there misery will be put to rest. Whereas if a person did life in prison, they have many other things to face. Some things that they will face will be things like rape while in jail, fights, wounds, depression, etc.

Majority of those who choose for the person to face the death penalty make that decision based off anger and feelings. Some people feel as if "well since I'm feeling the pain of a losing a loved one, then I want someone else to feel what I feel".

Now let's talk from the criminal's point of view. Some people would rather face the death penalty rather than going to prison for life. I mean think about it, your freedom is completely taken away from you and you're stuck in one place for life.

Prison in life is more punishable being that you have to live day-by-day trying to survive. Not every criminal would choose the death penalty though. You have some people who appreciate life and say "well although I will be in prison for life, at least I'm still alive".



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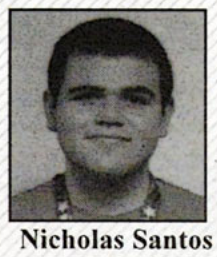
Editor in Chief



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- 500 words maximum
- No profane or slanderous language
- Students: Include name and year
- Faculty: Include name and rank
- Please include a phone number to verify authorship
- We reserve the right to edit for grammar/spelling/libel or publish
- Send submissions to **thelionspridenewspaper@gmail.com**

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33701 State Road 52 Saint Leo, FL 33574

ALUMNI WEEKEND 2015

APRIL 9-12 UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

More than 1,000 alumni and friends of Saint Leo will be visiting University Campus for Alumni Weekend 2015!! Join in the celebration, which includes:

Thursday, April 9

Athletic Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony

The Class of 2015: Edward "Ted" Huff '54, Mike Malatestinic '83, Ken Finch '89, Joseph Brauer '94, Caron Lumbra '05 Murphy, Asmir Pervan '06

Friday, April 10

President's Reception

Join us as we celebrate President Kirk's final alumni weekend! Enjoy food and beverages in the construction site of the New Academic Building.

Saturday, April 11

Golf Tournament

Veteran Student Services Golf Tournament Supporting the Military Education Excellence Fund at Saint Leo. Lake Jovita Golf and Country Club

5K and Color Run/Walk.

Proceeds benefit the men's and women's cross country teams. Registration and starting line at Intramural Fields

Tailgate on the Intramural Fields.

First 300 students will receive free admission courtesy of SGU!

<< Register today!

advance.saintleo.edu/alumniweekend2015

For more information and to register to attend Alumni Weekend 2015, visit www.saintleo.edu/alumni or call the Office of Alumni and Parent Relations at (352) 588-8667.

The School of Arts and Sciences

Dedicated, Diverse...DIFFERENT!

Did you know that you can take courses in...

HTY 300 CA01 ST: "Money, Murder, & the Madonna: Renaissance Italy"

Instructor: Jessica Stollenmaier
Day & Time: MWF 11:30

In Renaissance Italy, politics became a dangerous game of intrigue and personal power as society underwent unprecedented changes in banking, the arts, business, and religion. In this time period man began to think for himself and challenge the teachings of the Church. Taken together, these factors contributed to a society that created some of the world's most celebrated cultural achievements, but these gifts to humanity were often paid for in blood.

POL 339 – New Directions in Political Science [formerly Readings in Political Science]

Instructor: Dr. Hudson Reynolds
Day & Time: TR 2:00 – 3:20

Want to know more about the threat of ISIS in the Middle East, the collapse of democracy in Egypt, the on-going civil war in the Ukraine, the rise of China as a world industrial and military power, the uncertain future of Europe, and the widening gap between the super-rich and the working poor in the United States? Then, join the contemporary book club that is New Directions in Political Science. We will be investigating several recent and influential books on current affairs, watching television and Internet interviews with their authors, and sharing individual research and personal experiences. The course will be conducted in true seminar fashion, with a faculty member moderating student discussion. The grade will be determined by four short papers and one oral presentation. If you have passionate opinions about world politics and enjoy exchanging those views with others who are equally well informed, instead of sitting passively through class while a professor pontificates while submitting to one written examination after another, then this is the course for you!

SOC 201: Globalization

Instructor: Dr. Patricia Campion
Day & Time: TR 11:00-12:20

Do I need to learn Chinese or Portuguese to get a job? Why is the Islamic State gaining influence? Can we save the polar bears? Are immigrants a threat or an asset? Where can I listen to some Filipino rap? Explore these topic—and more!—as we discuss the meaning of globalization and its implications for our present lives and our future. We will cover issues in global cultural diffusion, inequality, terrorism, migration, sustainability, transnational organized crime, environmental conservation, foreign aid, and tourism. (Prerequisite: ENG 122)

HTY 328: From the Mongols to Mao: China, Korea and Japan from 1400 to 1945.

Instructor: Dr. Douglas Astolfi
Day & Time: TR 2:00 – 3:20

This course explores East Asian History from Genghis Kahn's marauding and murdering hordes through the rise and fall of the 19th century Dragon Lady Empress

dowager to Mao's Long March to unify China under his Communist dictatorship. Along the way, we will examine the rise and fall of Japan from Samurai warriors to fanatical 20th century leaders and the effects tumultuous changes in China and Japan had on a Korea, the country caught between them.

HTY 315 The American West

Instructor: Dr. Heather Parker
Day & Time: TR 11:00am

Come explore the "Wild West" and learn about cowboys and Native Americans, outlaws, gunfights, lawmen, ranchers, gold miners, prostitutes and all of the people you might expect to encounter during the wild days of the western frontier and also some things you might not have expected.

FAS 230 Practicum I: Voice for the Actor

Instructor: Mr. Owen Robertson
Day & Time: M 3:30 - 4:20 pm

Do you want to learn confidence in speaking before a class? Would you like to learn how to command words the way Ian McKellen, Patrick Stewart, Meryl Streep and many others do? If so, VOICE FOR THE ACTOR is the class for you. This class is open to anyone interested in learning the techniques that actors use to avoid stage fright or the techniques they use to speak with great clarity.

FAS 240 Practicum II: Technical Theater

Instructor: Mr. Owen Robertson
Day & Time: W 3:30 - 4:20 pm

Technical Theater is a class focused on how to do all those thankless jobs in theater, such as lighting design, running a light board, sound design and sound board, and building flats and platforms. If you have an interest in participating in productions on campus but you're not a performer, this is the class for you. Gain experience working with your hands and imagination.

ENG 200ST Special Topics: The Lion's Players

Instructor: Mr. Owen Robertson
Day & Time: MWF 2:30 - 3:20 pm

The Lion's Players will experiment with staged readings, exploring the potential of several plays over the course of a semester. Actors will have the chance to play multiple roles over the semester and work with several great plays. You don't have to be an actor to be a part of this class; you just have to be willing to explore plays and character.

HUM 220 - Breaking the Code: Language, Culture, Communication

Instructor: Dr. V. Badrinathan
Day & Time: TR 9:30 - 10:50 am

If you are curious about how human language influences culture and social interactions, and how it shapes our cognition and thought, this course is for you!

FRL 100ST - Russian I

Instructor: Dr. Iona Sarieva
Day & Time: MWF 12:30 - 1:20 pm

Taking Russian will give you more than just adding another impressive achievement on your resume – it is an interesting and fun challenge! Learn the second most used language on the internet and explore the culture of the largest country in the world.

FRL 200ST - Russian II

Instructor: Dr. Iona Sarieva
Day & Time: MWF 11:30 - 12:20 pm

Taking Russian will give you more than just adding another impressive achievement on your resume – it is an interesting and fun challenge! Learn the second most used language on the internet and explore the culture of the largest country in the world.

FRE 112

Instructor: F. Pfost
Day & Time: TR 2:00 -3:20 pm

"French, the world's historic language of diplomacy and commerce, is the official language of twenty-nine (29) countries all over the globe. Named by *Bloomberg Businessweek* as the third most useful language for global business after English and Chinese (2011), French is the language to study not only to gain insight into the boundless world outside, but also to self-identify in the infinite universe of resources within you."

SPA 111

Instructor: Dr. Marcela Van Olphen
Day & Time: TR 11:00 - 12:20 pm

Lions, learn to roar in another language! These introductory courses in Spanish and Portuguese provide you with the basic skills to maintain conversations and open the door to exciting new cultures.

POR 111

Instructor: Dr. Marcela Van Olphen
Day & Time: TR 12:30 - 1:50 pm

Lions, learn to roar in another language! These introductory courses in Spanish and Portuguese provide you with the basic skills to maintain conversations and open the door to exciting new cultures.

ENG 441 - Advanced Journalism

Instructor: Mrs. Valerie Kasper
Day & Time: TR 12:30 - 1:50 pm

This course is part of the Journalism Minor, but can be taken separately by anyone intersted in learning to write journalistically. Improve your writing skills in different areas of journalism, such as feature or editorial writing, but also strengthen your interviewing, presentation, and layout skills. This course will also delve into the digital realm when dealing with how to create online, multimedia articles and slideshows. Prereq: ENG 227 or permission from the instructor.

ENG 400ST - End of Days: The Post-Apocalyptic Imagination

Instructor: Dr. Lee Hobbs
Day & Time: MWF 1:30 - 2:20 pm

Zombies? Cannibals? Aliens? Epidemic? Nuclear Holocaust? Technological Breakdown? Anarchy? With the success of recently televised series such as AMC's *The Walking Dead*, TNT's *Falling Skies*, FX's *The Strain*, and NBC's *Revolution*, to name only a few, the imagined post-apocalypse is a topic currently enjoying lots of attention in popular culture. In this upper-level, special topics course devoted to speculations of "life" on planet Earth *after* an epic, global cataclysm, students will examine some of the ways these literary and cinematic texts both explore ethical dilemmas, and reflect cultural anxieties in an era experiencing rapid environmental, political, and social changes. Answers will be sought to key questions such as, what do these narratives about existence in a dismal, dark age *after* civilization's end divulge about humanity's present hopes and fears for its own near future?

IDS 300ST - The Happiness Class

Instructor: Ms. Karen Bryant and Dr. R. Woodard
Day & Time: TR 12:30 -1:50 pm

What do smiling babies, creative geniuses, and the Buddha have in common? This interdisciplinary class will focus what happiness means or has meant to people from different backgrounds, cultures, and belief systems, and try to pin down an answer to what constitutes happiness today.

ENG 340 - African American Literature

Instructor: Mrs. Valerie Kasper
Day & Time: TR 2:00 - 3:20 pm

Come walk through history with writers such as Phillis Wheatley, Frederick Douglass, Maya Angelou, Langston Hughes, and Zora Neale Hurston. Study the influence these writers had on the African American community, as well as their impact on a broader society.

MUS 120,220,320,420

Private instruction in piano, voice, strings, guitar and percussion. Students receive a minimum of ten private lessons during the semester with a qualified instructor on their instrument or voice. Semester fee is required. For more information please contact Elisabeth Aiken (elisabeth.aiken@saintleo.edu)

MUS-100

A Capella Group: Instructor Pamela Decius (pamela.decius@saintleo.edu)

Our small group ensembles perform at campus events such as the biannual student art shows, poetry readings, recitals, and receptions. They also have many opportunities to perform in the community at local events, art galleries, and retirement communities.

MUS 106 - Saint Leo Singers

Saint Leo Singers: Instructor Cynthia Selph (cynthia.selph@saintleo.edu)

Choral ensemble that performs all styles of music from classical to pop to multi-cultural to gospel. This ensemble performs with a variety of instrumental accompaniment, and is open to all singers. Auditions for placement are held during the first week of classes.

MUS 130-CA01

String Ensemble: Intructor Kasia Dolinska (kasia.dolinska@saintleo.edu)

String Ensemble is a small performance group open to students of all levels of skill. The ensemble meets once a week for rehearsals throughout the semester, and they perform in venues such as the annual student art shows, the Christmas Concert, and student and faculty recitals.

MUS 130 -CA02

Jazz Ensemble: Intructor Mauricio Rodriguez (mauricio.rodriguez @saintleo.edu)

The Jazz Ensemble is a small performance group open to students of all levels of skill. The ensemble meets once a week for rehearsals throughout the semester, and they perform in venues such as the annual student art shows, the Christmas Concert, and student and faculty recitals.

Arts & Entertainment

Rifting Through to the Future

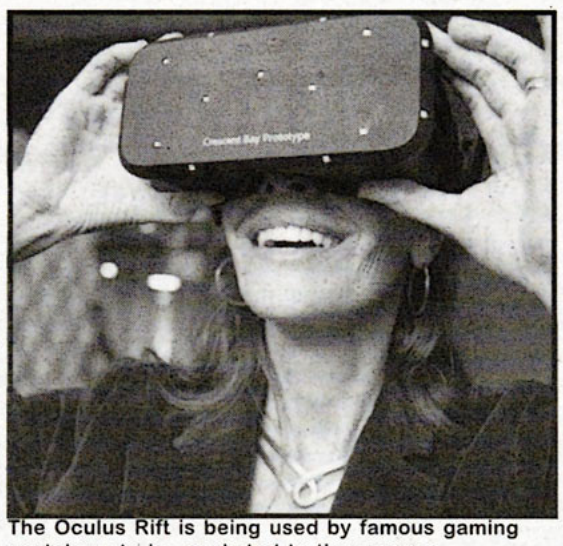
By Austin Chiavaroli
Staff Writer

While multiple gaming companies are making games more realistic, they have struggled to fully design a more interactive way to play their games. Until the company Oculus VR took it into their own hands to create something that the gaming industry that has never done before.

Creating the product titled Oculus Rift, Oculus VR has made a device that is placed around the gamer's head. Designed much like a visor,the Rift displays what is seen on the screen to an even better first person view.The camera on the inside captures whenever the player moves their head in any direction and takes all of the information to the game making its camera do the same.

The device's production started off with tests of different games made for the Rift onlyone popular game being a guillotine simulator.With multiple successes and the device gaining more positive comments and reactions, the product started becoming famous quickly.Soon even famous gaming Youtubers, individuals who produce videos on the website Youtube, jumped on the Rift's popularity. Youtubers such as Markiplier, PewDiePie, and CaptainSparklez just to name a few,have gotten their hands on the Rift and have marketed it on multiple videos. Almost $2.4 million were raised to develop the Rift from gamers and individuals alike on their Kickstarter, a website designed to help get funding for ideas.

Tons of fresh gaming companies have risen due to the Rift as they have begun developing games for the device. Though horror games are a big chunk of these new games, other games such as "Don't Let Go," and "Euro Truck Simulator 2" have all been made to help raise funds for the production of this product. Even popular games such as "The Elder Scrolls 5: Skyrim," "Left 4 Dead," and "Bioshock," have been hacked into where the Oculus can put the player in the eyes of their characters.



The Oculus Rift is being used by famous gaming youtubers to be marketed to the masses.

Other individuals who have been inspired by the Oculus Rift have also begun creating their own devices to make the players experience with their games more interactive. Some have even made devices to work alongside with the Oculus Rift. The Virtuix Omni is an omnidirectional treadmill in which the player walks or runs on, making the character in the game walk and run as well. It has been shown in multiple gaming conventions and has gotten praise from Oculus VR as well.

However, in July of last year,Facebook bought the Oculus Rift ad, and is planning on sharing the profits as they have begun to market the device as well.

After all the testing and pre-marketing, a consumer version of the Oculus Rift is said to be released sometime hopefully this year.The product has definitely proved its point to the gaming community and has helped humanity take a big step towards the future of gaming. Virtual reality is finally looking to become a possibility if inventors and bright minds continue to keep making amazing devices

UWF Cybersecurity

Can you hack it?

The fastest-growing crime is happening online. It can strike anywhere, anytime. Earn your master's degree in Cybersecurity online or in person at our Pensacola campus. We'll teach you to stay a step ahead of the bad guys. Think you can hack it? Make your splash. Scholarships and financial aid available.

Get the facts: **uwf.edu/cybersecurity**.

Upcoming Local Attractions

Buy tickets now! Prices will only increase!

Kid Rock & Foreigner Concert
Date: 7/18/15
Location: MidFlorida Credit Union Ampitheatre
Contact: 1-813-740-2446
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Price: Starting at $45
Description:
Rap-rock icon Kid Rock and prominent classic rock band Foreigner will be coming to Tampa in July in order to promote Kid Rock's new album First Kiss. Kid Rock's incredibly diverse sound and Foreigner's formidable musical talent should make for an excellent show.

Forest Hills Drive Tour
Date: 8/16/15
Location: MidFlorida Credit Union Ampitheatre
Contact: 1-813-740-2446
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Price: Starting at $45
Description:
Hip-Hop artist J. Cole will be coming to Tampa on September 16th, along with Big Sean, YG, and Jeremih. Those considering attending should expect exciting live performances from each artist, filled with energy and spirit.

Kelly Clarkson, Pentatonix, and Eric Hutchinson Concert
Date: 9/15/15
Location: MidFlorida Credit Union Ampitheatre
Contact: 1-813-740-2446
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Price: Starting at $39
Description:
Kelly Clarkson will coming to Tampa in September in order to promote her newest album, titled Piece By Piece. Joining her shall be a capela group and Youtube phenomenon Pentatonix, and singer-songwriter Eric Hutchinson.

Arts & Entertainment

Starwhals Swimming in the Stars

By Austin Chiavaroli
Staff Writer

Ever wonder what it would be like if Narwhals were in space rather than under water? "Starwhal," developed by Breakfall, is an indie multiplayer game where the player can pick a colored starwhal to battle against two to four other competitors in the expanse of outer space.

Though this doesn't seem like much, this game can give the player hours of fun versing his/her friends and trying to stab them while dodging their starwhal's horns in the process.

There are four game modes in "Starwhal." In Classical mode, the objective is to be the last player to live in a match against friends. In Score Attack mode, the players aren't eliminated, but instead the match has begun a race against time to tag one another and get the highest score before time runs out. In Heart Throb mode, the game is set like king of the hill, where the player who has the heart when time runs out wins. Finally, there is Zones mode, where the players gain points by capturing control points. Some of the best zones are with the background of the planet, Spacetopus.

Customization gives the player the option to make the starwhal have a look that suits the player's personality and horn of choice. The horn options vary from a normal narwhal horn all the way to a light saber. With the addition of helmet and costume options, the starwhal can look its best when going up against opponents.

The game comes with more than 20 arenas for the players to verse in, as well as many obstacle and challenge levels to practice in. These come in handy in later stages that introduce new hazards that will take cunning and strategic thinking to work through, such as glass blocks.

The color scheme of the game is bright and vivid, which gives off a retro look, making the game pop out with a bit of a nostalgic feel to it. There are even grid lines that are used as the walling of the arenas that look like something from the universe of Tron.

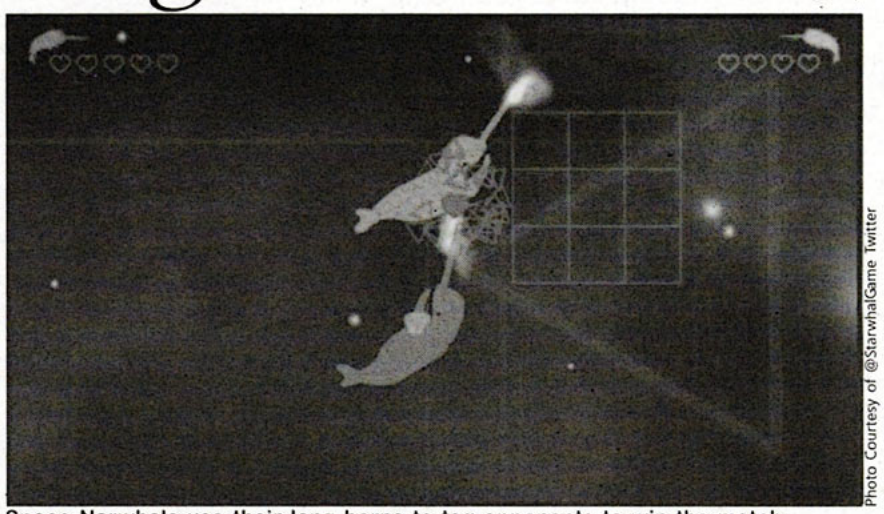


Photo Courtesy of @StarwhalGame Twitter

Space Narwhals use their long horns to tag opponents to win the match.

If there is any issue with the game, it is the repetitiveness of the gameplay. Every level is won by stabbing the opponents with horns in order to win.

Looking past this little flaw, the game itself is just silly and a blast to play for any party or group of friends. It comes on the PC, PlayStation 3, and PlayStation 4, and will soon be released on the Wii U and in the Nintendo E-Shop. This game gets a 4.3/5.

College Days
Created by Austin Chiavaroli

05 "Passing Time"

College Days
Created by Austin Chiavaroli

06"Dandruff"

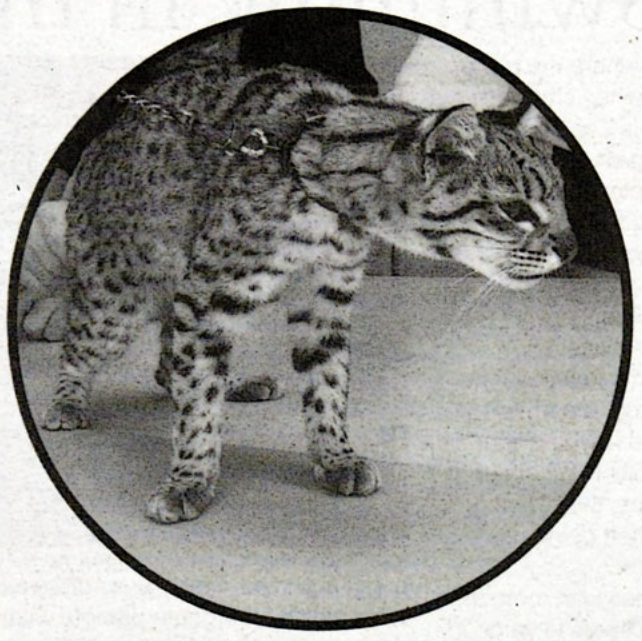
Campus News

Wild Animals Tame Saint Leo Students

By Matt Vandenburgh
Contributing Writer

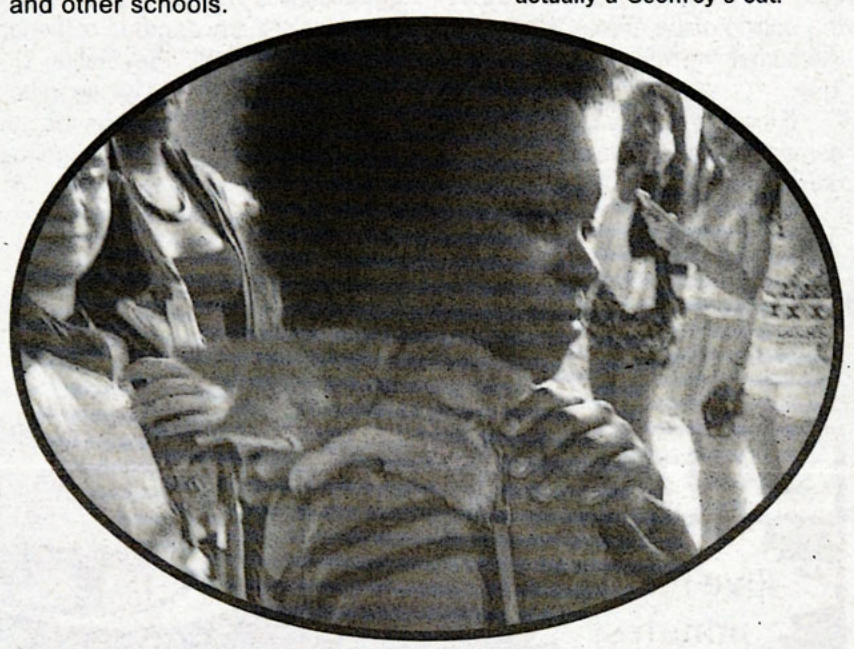
Animal Rentals, a traveling petting zoo based out of Chicago, Ill. visited Saint Leo University on Thurs, March 12. Bringing a variety of animals, students were allowed to hold and pet many of them. Included were a skunk, porcupine, chinchilla, macaw, tarantula, White-Throated Capuchin Monkey, boa constrictor, fennec fox and a Geoffrey's cat.

Animal Rentals, whose website displays the fact that they are "a fully licensed and USDA certified business with over 100 years of expertise in the training and handling of exotic animals" travels across the country bringing their exotic menagerie to colleges and other schools.



Though mistaken for an ocelot, Jesse James is actually a Geoffroy's cat.

There are many different varieties of Macaws and Piwackett, above with Junior Elizabeth Panek, is classified as a Scalet Macaw.



Fennec foxes are nocturnal creatures, thus why Sahara seems to enjoy her nap on Junior Eriqua McGee's shoulder.

Mature boa constrictors can range in lengths from 6-10 feet, which means Scarlet, pictured above with Senior Emily Sheputis, is not a fully mature.

Photo courtesy of Matt Vandenburgh